

SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD

BOARD MEETING, JULY 24-25, 1996

TULITA, NT

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Winter Lennie	Chairperson
Isadore Yukon	Board Member
Russell Hall	Board Member
George Barnaby	Board Member
Paul Latour	Board Member
Gerry LePrieur	Alternate Member
Robert Nowosad	Executive Director

ABSENT:

Morris Neyelle	Board Member
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Wednesday, July 24 - 09:20am

Chairperson, Winter Lennie called the Board Meeting to order.

1. Opening Prayer - led by George Barnaby.
2. Introduction of Members and Alternates - Chairperson formally welcomed and introduced Robert F. Nowosad, the new Executive Director, to the Board Members.
3. Review and Acceptance of Agenda - agenda items were renumbered to accommodate several additional topics and scheduling changes. (additional items reflected in Minutes)
SRRB 25-1996: Motion to approve the Agenda as amended - moved by Russell Hall, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried
4. Review and Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting, March 26-28/96 - an SRRB Motion numbering error noted and corrected, the second SRRB 21-1996 Motion, as recorded on page 12 of the Minutes renumbered to SRRB 22-1996.
SRRB 26-1996: Motion to approve the amended Minutes of the March 26-28, 1996 Board Meeting held in Norman Wells - moved by George Barnaby, seconded by Isadore Yukon. Carried
4. (a) Business Arising From the Minutes - Gerry LePrieur reminded the Board that a letter of intent from the Board to Renewable Resources concerning the GNWT CHAP and ADMIN funds had not yet been drafted, as per Motion SRRB 17-1996. Discussion ensued. The Chairperson stated that prior to taking on responsibility for administering the GNWT funds the Board should poll the

Resource Councils, seeking their views on the subject. The Executive Director was instructed to send a letter to each Resource Council outlining the Board's intention to administer CHAP and ADMIN funding on behalf of Renewable Resources and to seek the Resource Council's comments of this proposed action. A final decision as to whether or not to proceed with the intended action would be made once replies had been received from the community Resource Councils.

5. Chairperson's Report - (a) reviewed current financial position of the Board and distributed copies of the Auditors' Report, Sahtu Renewable Resource Board - Financial Statements, March 31, 1996 and 1995, to the Board Members. Copies of the revised and accepted Budget 1994-2005 were distributed. The Chairperson reported that financially, the Board was in excellent shape to undertake all of its proposed projects.

(b) The plan to establish a temporary Board office in Norman Wells, prior to relocating to Tulita, would proceed now that the Executive Director had arrived. At the present time, office space in the Jim Ulch building was being considered for Board use.

(c) An overview of the Ottawa meeting of, the Committee On The Status Of Endangered Wildlife In Canada, COSEWIC, was presented. New legislation, the Canadian Endangered Species Protection Act, is presently in the final draft stage, copies of which will be made available later this fall for Board review.

(d) The 1994/95 Annual Report of RENEW was circulated as was the latest issue of RECOVERY. The Chairperson pointed out that the newsletter RECOVERY contained an interesting article by John Bailey, Endangered Species Legislation and Land Claims: Challenge or Opportunity?

6. Committee Reports - Robert provided an overview of the initial planning session of the, NWT Co-management Board Chair's Meeting attended in Yellowknife June 13-14, 1996. The Committee, comprised of representative of the four claimant groups discussed a number of common concerns including the proposed formation of the new GNWT Department, Resources, Wildlife & Economic Development. Agreement was reached by those attending, on the methodology to be followed when dealing with matters of common concern such as the long term management of the Bluenose Caribou Herd.

7. Report on Wildlife Management - Alasdair Veitch provided copies of reports on several wildlife studies recently undertaken in the Sahtu as well as updates on projects presently underway. "Report To Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, July 1996"; "Final Report, Western Canada Co-operative Waterfowl Banding Program At Loche Lake Mackenzie River Valley, Northwest Territories - August 1995"; "Demography of a Dall's Sheep Population in the Mackenzie Mountains, Northwest Territories: 1994-95"; "1995 Mackenzie Mountain Non-resident Hunter Harvest Summary"; "Size, Composition and Harvest of the Norman Wells Area Moose population, November 1995".

Questions were raised pertaining to future scientific studies the Board may undertake, specifically; The Settlement Area Harvest Study and a possible Grizzly Bear Population Study. Robert advised

that the Settlement Area Harvest Study could proceed once the funds, approximately two hundred thousand dollars, were transferred into our own CIBC bank account. Background material was being obtained from both the Gwich'in and IRC studies on how to undertake the study, what to look for when selecting a Harvest Co-ordinator, study methodology and operational techniques. Staffing of the Harvest Co-ordinator's position would begin shortly and in fact it and the Biologist's position would be jointly advertised.

As for a possible grizzly bear study, it would be considered once the Board had received an indication from the Renewable Resource Councils as to their study needs and priorities.

7(a) Changes to the NWT Hunting Regulations: - Paul inquired as to the consultation process followed when evaluating proposed changes to the NWT Hunting Regulations. He noted that the 1996 regulations contained changes that had not been reviewed with the various claimant groups. Gerry advised that the regulation changes were initiated years in advance, prior to the Sahtu claim being finalized and the Renewable Resource Board being established, thus the lack of prior consultation with the Board. He assured the Board that future changes to the regulations would be reviewed with the claimant groups prior to being incorporated into new hunting regulations.

8. Discussion Concerning Replacement of Members or Alternate Members: - The Chairperson reviewed his previous efforts to clarify exactly which organizations were involved in identifying, recommending, advancing, nominating and approving Board membership. Delays had been experienced in getting SSI to nominate recommended members and to advance their names to the GNWT and Federal governments. As yet responses had not been received to correspondence directed to Aideen Nabigon, with the Federal government and Kevin Campbell with the GNWT concerning membership issues.

Roy Doolittle (SSI), had advised Robert that he had recently sent letters to both governments requesting that George Barnaby be made a full member of the Board, moved from alternate to member; that Leonard Kenny of Deline be appointed an alternate member; that Winter Lennie had accepted the Chairperson's position on the Board and that SSI had begun the process of identifying a replacement member; and as well that Archie Lennie Sr. of Tulita and Lucy Jackson of Fort Good Hope be appointed alternate members to the Board.

The Chairperson indicated that discussions had been undertaken with Larry Tourangeau and Roy Doolittle concerning replacing Jimmy Tutcho as an alternate member to the Board. SSI had requested that the Board send a formal letter to SSI requesting Jimmy's replacement. Robert was instructed to draft such a letter, to be sent under the Chairperson's signature.

Aideen Nabigon requested that the Board send her a letter indicating that the Board of Directors, accept and confirm Winter Lennie's appointment as Chairperson. A letter to this effect was drafted, signed by the Directors and sent to Aideen.

Isadore Yukon indicated that he felt the time had come for him to retire from the Board. Though

willing to continue until such time as his replacement was identified he stated that his failing health and difficulty with his legs made continuing as a Board member difficult. Isadore indicated that he would continue to provide assistance wherever he could and would assist the Deline Renewable Resource Council if requested. The Chairperson instructed Robert to draft a "retirement letter" for Isadore's signature.

9. Date And Place Of The Next Meeting: - following discussion it was agreed that the next meeting of the Board would be held at the Legion in Norman Wells, Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, 1996 commencing at 1:30pm, Sept. 30. Gerry agreed to take care of reserving the Legion for the selected dates and making arrangements with the Rayuka Inn to provide lunches and coffee.

SRRB 27-1996: Motion that the next Board meeting be held in Norman Wells Sept.30 to Oct.2, 1996 commencing at 1:30pm., meetings to be held at the Norman Wells Legion - moved by Russell Hall, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried.

10. Settlement Area Harvest Study: - following discussion it was agreed that the Board would take on responsibility for being the Harvest Study Working Group.

SRRB 28-1996: Motion that the Directors of the SRRB agree to take on responsibility of functioning as the Settlement Area Harvest Study Working Group, representation to be; Russell Hall (DFO), Paul Latour (CWS), Gerry LePrieur (GNWT), Winter Lennie, George Barnaby, Morris Neyelle (Sahtu Dene/Metis) - moved by George Barnaby, seconded by Isadore Yukon. Carried.

SRRB 29-1996: Motion that the two positions, Biologist and Settlement Area Harvest Study Co-ordinator be widely and jointly advertised and that the advertising, screening, interviewing and selection process begin as quickly as possible. Responsibility be given to representatives of the Personnel Committee to select suitable candidates from amongst those applying for the positions - moved by Paul Latour, seconded by Russell Hall. Carried.

NOTE - Scheduling Change - Agenda items 18 & 19, Fire Program and Community Fire Management; Tulita Reforestation/Reclamation presented by Bob Bailey and Bob Larson originally scheduled for the afternoon of July 25/96, would be presented July 24/96 at 7:30pm to a joint meeting of the SRRB and the Tulita Community Leadership.

18 & 19. Fire Program and Community Fire Management; Tulita Reforestation/Reclamation - The Tulita Community Leadership provided a review of their April 19, 1996 submission to Stephen Kakfwi, Tulita (Fort Norman) Fire Clean-up Reclamation Proposal. Bob Bailey, Bob Larson and Gerry LePrieur outlined the GNWT clean-up and reclamation proposal and as well addressed the Tulita community concerns. Two thousand Apen and Birch seedlings would be planted this summer, with another five thousand planted in 1997. A three year replanting and reclamation program would be undertaken. Bob Larson and Bob Bailey agreed to meet with community representatives the following morning to discuss in greater detail reforestation and reclamation requirements and plans.

Thursday, July 25, 1996 - 9:00am

11. Discuss Board Operating Procedures and Constitution - the DRAFT outline of SRRB Operating Procedures previously prepared, prior to the arrival of the Executive Director, had apparently not been received by all Board members. Additional copies would be provided and circulated for review and comment.

The Board agreed with the suggestion that staffing of the SRRB administrative/finance/office-management, position be undertaken at the same time as staffing of the biologist and harvest study co-ordinator positions.

Financial signing authority, previously requiring two signatures on all cheques could now be altered to take into account the responsibilities and duties of the Executive Director. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Executive Director would have single signature cheque signing authority to a limit of five thousand dollars and joint signing authority, with either Winter Lennie or Gerry LePrieur for amounts over five thousand dollars.

SRRB 30-1996: Motion, that the necessary bank documents be completed to provide the Executive Director with single signature cheque signing authority to a limit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) and joint signing authority with either the Chairperson, (Winter Lennie) or a Member, (Gerry LePrieur) for expenditures over five thousand dollars -moved by Russell Hall, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried.

11(a). Communications - effective internal and external communications was viewed by the Members as an extremely important aspect of Board operations. Paul suggested that a News Letter be prepared on a regular bases and that it be circulated not only to Board Members but also to outside agencies such as the Renewable Resource Councils, SSI, other claimant Boards and government agencies. Robert indicated he would obtain samples of the Gwich'in news letters and use them as an outline when producing SRRB News Letters.

It was suggested that whenever possible, community based meetings with the Resource Councils be undertaken in the evenings so as not to conflict with participants employment schedules and to help encourage community attendance and participation.

Approved, Board Minutes are to be made available to all interested parties as well as Members, Alternates, SSI, Renewable Resource Councils and the Sahtu Dene Council.

12. Facilities and Building Schedule - as Phil Lee was unable to attend the Tulita Board meeting his, "Facilities" presentation was instead delivered by Danny Yakeleya, President of the Fort Norman Metis Land Corporation. Danny advised the Board that due to design and construction delays, the proposed office building would not be available before July 1997. The two storey multi-use structure, providing office, retail, commercial and hotel space would be a Pan-Abode building, constructed of western red cedar. Danny asked that the Board provide updated information as to the required SRRB

office layout. Flexibility of design using the Pan-abode system meant that almost any office layout from open concept to enclosed offices could be accommodated. The location of entrances, windows and washrooms could also be variable however, Danny asked that a final SRRB office layout be provided as quickly as possible.

The Board reiterated it's need for residence housing in Tulita. The Chairperson made it very clear to Danny that office space without suitable staff housing was not acceptable, both must be available prior to the Board locating it's headquarters in Tulita. Danny agreed to address the housing matter along with the office construction project.

SRRB 31-1996: Motion, that the Executive Director proceed with the establishment of a temporary SRRB office in Norman Wells and that the office remain in Norman Wells until such time as both suitable office and staff housing facilities were constructed and available in Tulita, (currently slated to be July/August 1997) - moved by Paul Latour, seconded by George Barnaby. Carried.

13. Correspondence - recent correspondence included material from the April 1996 COSEWIC meeting attended by Winter Lennie. The Board had also received a letter from Kelly Hougen, President of the Association of Mackenzie Mountains Outfitters in which he indicated he was the new President of the Association and that his organization wished to establish a solid working relationship with the SRRB. Robert was directed to reply to Kelly's letter and assure him that the SRRB would keep his Association informed of all matters relating to the Mackenzie Mountain area.

NOTE - Agenda scheduling change.

15. Report on Dodo Park - a short report was presented by Kevin Mclellan outlining winter and summer field trips undertaken in the proposed Dodo Park by members of the Canol Trail Committee. Apparently the summer 1996 issue of Backpacker contains a rather interesting article on the Canol Trail. Though not an altogether "glowing review" of the Trail, the article did point out some of the areas unique features and did recommend the area as a worthwhile hiking experience for the wilderness adventurer. Kevin indicated that the Committee's efforts to include Tulita residents in the Canol Trail planning had not been widely accepted by the community and he therefore solicited the Board's assistance in encouraging greater Tulita participation.

16. CIBC - Wood Gundy Investment Proposal - Ernie Carmichael from the Yellowknife CIBC office and Neil Bosch, Financial Consultant with the Edmonton office of Wood Gundy delivered an investment proposal in which they outlined their recommendations for investing the Wildlife Studies Fund. Two possible scenarios for investing in fixed income financial instruments were outlined, one dealing with regular bonds and one dealing with stripped bonds. Neil suggested that while the funds currently being held by the Board's lawyer should be transferred to a CIBC account to help facilitate later investment, the actual investing of the money into specific financial instruments should not be undertaken until after this falls' US election.. At that time interest rates should improve and the Board would then receive a better return on it's investment. The presentation was professionally delivered and very informative.

Limited Board discussion followed the presentation and no final decision on how best to invest the Wildlife Studies Fund money was forthcoming. Robert advised that he would be meeting with Peter Clarkson in Inuvik in the near future and would inquire about the Gwich'in experience in dealing with Wood Gundy. Robert would then make a recommendation to the Board as to how best to proceed with it's Wildlife Studies Fund investment strategy.

14. Grizzly Bear Mountain, Scented Grass Hills and Fort Franklin National Historic Sites Proposal - Isadore raised the question of what effect setting aside lands for the proposed Grizzly Bear Mountain National Historic Site might have on traditional activities? It was pointed out that according to the publication, National Historic Site Proposal - April 1996, page 10, the establishment of the historic site would not affect traditional activities. The article further stated that the historic site management plan for the area would be developed with the full involvement of the community of Deline.

NOTE - Item 17. Consolidation Presentation by Bob McLeod would be delayed until the late afternoon due to his late arrival from Yellowknife via air charter.

20. Other Business - (a). Request for a donation to the Tulita Youth Dancers - following discussion it was decided that the request fell outside the Board's mandate and as such the Youth Dancers request for a donation was declined.

(b). Request from Larry Tourangeau, President of the Ernie McDonald Land Corporation, for assistance and support in their efforts to have beaver dams on Sucker Creek removed and to have Fire Fighting Training Camps held in Norman Wells - (i) Sucker Creek Dams - a letter would be sent to DFO in Inuvik requesting information as to the status of action being taken by DFO on removing the beaver dams on Sucker Creek. Gerry indicated that Renewable Resources was in favour of removal of the dams. It was also suggested that Ron Allen of DFO be invited to the Board's next meeting in Norman Wells to discuss possible solutions to the Sucker Creek problem. - (ii) Fire Fighting - Gerry indicated that a number of forestry training initiatives had and were being undertaken in Norman Wells. Gerry agreed to respond directly to Larry Tourangeau concerning his inquiry.

17. Departmental Consolidation - Assistant Deputy Minister, Bob McLeod provided a presentation outlining the current status of departmental consolidation and the formation of the new Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development. The new Department is to come into existence August 19, 1996 with the three Department consolidated budget beginning with the April 1, 1997-98 fiscal year. Bob indicated that although several concerns had been raised by outside agencies as to the consolidation process and it's projected benefits, the Minister Stephen Kakwfi had assured everyone that the consolidation would preserve program spending, result in more effective delivery and respond to direction provided by Legislature.

This was the end of the Agenda and all associated SRRB business as of 5:15pm July 25, 1996.

SRRB 32-1996: Motion to adjourn the Tulita Board Meeting - moved by Gerry LePrieur, seconded by Paul Latour. Carried.